

One year ago the community of Duquesne and surrounding area was devastated by an EF-5 tornado, but showed the nation and the world what it means to help your neighbors in their greatest time of need.

The tornado that wreaked havoc on our friends and neighbors was ½ mile to ¾ mile wide and traveled approximately 13 miles in Duquesne, Joplin and surrounding area. The tornado damaged over 500 residential and commercial structures in Duquesne, forever changing the landscape of the community and lives of those who call the area home. This destructive force of nature claimed 161 lives in the area.

I saw the immediate aftermath of this disaster with my own eyes, and I know it is vital to get the right resources to the right people as quickly as possible, because lives depend on it. As their representative in Congress, it was my job to make sure the federal government worked with local and state officials to provide disaster relief. As a neighbor, it was my job to help in any way I could, from setting up cots in aid stations with other volunteers to helping with search and rescue. Missouri is called the Show-Me State, and Missourians and Americans from across our great country showed the nation and the world the compassion and generosity of the American spirit. Over 120,000 volunteers poured into the area to offer their help and support, and some are still assisting with rebuilding efforts.

As we commemorate the one-year anniversary which changed the lives of all families impacted by this horrific disaster, we treasure the good times in the past and look forward to a promising future for Duquesne and all who call this wonderful place home.

Even though we can't explain why tragedy strikes, we can use what happened here to remind us of the good inside us all and to remind us that even though we lost a lot, we did not lose everything. If anyone thinks that there are not good, generous and compassionate people in this world, then they need to come down here to see firsthand how this community came together during their time of need.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE
HONORABLE ROBERT E. FEIGHAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Judge Robert E. Feighan.

Judge Feighan was born on September 4, 1927 to Edward and Catherine Feighan. He was a lifelong resident of Euclid, Ohio and long-time member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Holy Cross Church. He attended St. Ignatius High School for three years before enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps. He served in China for a year before returning to graduate from Euclid Shore High School. He went on to John Carroll University and the Cleveland State University's Cleveland Marshall Law School, from which he graduated in 1955.

Judge Feighan first gained notoriety as an assistant Cuyahoga County prosecutor; a position he held from 1961 until 1981. He made headlines for convicting a man who committed a stabbing at Higbee's Department Store. In 1980, Judge Feighan was elected as a Cuya-

hoga county Common Pleas Court Judge and served until 1988. Uninterested in furthering his career politically, Judge Feighan neglected to run for another term and began a twenty year stint as a visiting judge. He retired in 2008.

I offer my condolences to his sister, Patricia Feighan and his many nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Judge Robert E. Feighan, who dedicated his life to serving the Greater Cleveland community.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING IMPORTANCE OF PREVENTING IRAN FROM ACQUIRING A NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss my vote in favor of H. Res. 568.

I would like to clarify that nothing in this resolution authorizes or empowers military action by the United States or U.S. encouragement of the use of force by any other country at this time. I have long made plain my conviction that all options should be available with respect to the Iranian nuclear program. I do not believe the military option should be taken off the table for future discussion at a future time. However, this is not an appropriate time to seriously consider or even to hint at military strikes. Most informed observers believe sanctions are heavily affecting the Iranian regime and may be moving it to recognize that the international community is united in opposition to its nuclear project. This is not the moment to loosen the screws, nor is it the moment for cheap bellicosity. Issues of peace and war should not be exploited for political advantage.

I vote yes despite these concerns. I regret that the leadership of this House has chosen this moment to make an unnecessary and untimely political statement. I believe this is profoundly ill timed and injudicious. I call upon the House leadership to stop holding such unhelpful votes at politically charged moments. This resolution heightens the rhetoric in a way that is at best unhelpful to ongoing, promising diplomatic efforts and may be actively damaging.

In addition, I note that the inclusion of language regarding Iran's "nuclear weapons capability" is overly broad and undefined. When considering such weighty issues, clarity is of the utmost importance, and Congress should be precise in what we are asking for in this resolution so that we may avoid misinterpretation.

Finally, I point out that the last resolve clause, which "urges the President to reaffirm the unacceptability of an Iran with nuclear-weapons capability and opposition to any policy that would rely on containment as an option in response to the Iranian nuclear threat," is unnecessary and insulting. President Obama has always been clear, forceful, and mature when dealing with the Iranian nuclear program. It is evident that this clause is a political statement meant to score points during a political season.

Nonetheless, with these concerns I am required to vote. Though I considered answering present, I want to be clear about my strong stance on this issue. I do believe that a nuclear armed Iran would pose a danger to the peace of the region and the world. So, today I vote in favor of H. Res. 568, with the clear concerns I have stated.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JOE EDWARDS

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished community leader in Cartersville, Georgia, Dr. Joe Edwards is celebrating his 25th anniversary as pastor of the Church Liberty Square.

Under his direction, Liberty Square has grown into a "life-based" church complex, boasting a K-12 school, family home communities, and a food distribution center that serves the needy. Pastor Edwards is a man who lives his faith; he and members of the Church at Liberty Square have positively transformed their community.

Pastor Edwards' devotion to Christ's ministry is an example to us all. I wish him continued blessings in his work. There is no doubt that Cartersville is a better place because of Pastor Edwards.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pastor Edwards and the Church at Liberty Square.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4310) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act, which will assist victims of sexual harassment or sexual assault in the military. There are countless current and former members of the military who have bravely reported sexual harassment or assault, only to be retaliated against. My amendment would educate these service members about the resources available to them to help them get justice.

These brave men and women, who serve our nation with honor and distinction, should not have to live in fear of reprisal for doing what is right. My amendment will ensure that they are informed of the resources available, and the processes in place, to protect them from any retaliatory personnel actions after reporting sexual harassment or abuse.

The Board of Correction for Military Records (BCMR) is the vehicle by which a current or

former member of the Armed Forces who feels that they have suffered an injustice as a result of error or injustice in military records may apply for a correction of those military records.

My amendment will educate current and former military members about the opportunity to apply for relief from the BCMR if they have been previously punished for reporting cases of sexual assault.

Applying for relief to the BCMR could help a service member such as a current Marine who is facing an unwarranted Field Fight Performance Board following her filing of a sexual harassment complaint.

It could help an Army soldier who was denied promotion, removed from her assignment, and referred for a mental evaluation after reporting a sexual assault, and who received a series of negative evaluation reports after filing a sexual harassment complaint and initiating a Congressional inquiry into her situation.

It could help a sailor who is facing involuntary administrative separation from the Navy—which would deny her future medical benefits—because she has been diagnosed with an “adjustment disorder” after seeking mental health treatment in the aftermath of a sexual assault.

We have made excellent progress recently in dealing with this blemish of sexual assault on the proud and honorable tradition of our armed forces. I am pleased that new protections for victims are in place as a result of last year's NDAA, and that the Department of Defense is moving forward with advanced investigative techniques that will improve prosecution of sexual assault cases.

But I am also very concerned about the issue of sexual harassment, which is so often the precursor to sexual assault. This educational campaign is simply a first step in addressing the issue of sexual harassment, and sending a message that this behavior—and certainly retaliating against victims who report it—is absolutely unacceptable in our military.

Much is asked of the men and women who dedicate themselves to the protection of our freedoms. We must continue to ensure that we earn that trust and dedication.

IN HONOR OF THE FORTUNA
FAMILY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Fortuna Family, who is being recognized by the Slovenian National Home (the Nash) at their annual Persons of the Year Recognition Dinner.

The Fortuna Family began on November 21, 1953 when Joseph and Virginia Fortuna were married. In 1958, the couple opened the Fortuna Funeral Home in Cleveland's Slavic Village. Throughout their fifty-two year marriage, Joseph and Virginia raised four children, Joseph, Mary Ann, John and Jane.

The eldest, Joseph, was ordained a Roman Catholic priest in 1980 and today serves as the Pastor of Our Lady of the Lake Roman Catholic Church in Euclid, Ohio. Mary Ann married James Trzaska; the two are licensed funeral directors working at Fortuna Funeral

Home. Mary Ann and James also have two children, Sheryl and Anthony, who are both attorneys. John Fortuna works at the family funeral home and has been a licensed funeral director for 33 years. John and his wife, Roberta, have three children, Joseph, Katherine and Kristen. The youngest of the Fortuna children, Jane, married Phil DeMattia and they have raised two children, David and Rebecca. Jane works as a nurse at the Cleveland Clinic.

The entire Fortuna Family has had a long connection to the Nash. In addition to Joseph and Virginia's wedding reception being held at the Nash, each of their children's wedding receptions were also hosted at the venue. Father Joseph's ordination was also celebrated at the Nash. Additionally, Joseph and Virginia began a long lasting family tradition of volunteerism at the Nash. Joseph served as President of the Board of Slovenian National Home and was named “Man of the Year” multiple times.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating the Fortuna Family as they are honored at the Slovenian National Home's Persons of the Year Recognition Dinner.

DEDICATION AND UNVEILING OF
THE MONUMENT HONORING STEPHEN DUBOISE II

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I want to honor and remember Stephen Duboise II, a soldier in the American Revolutionary War, along with his ancestors who can trace their lineage back to the founding of this country. Stephen Duboise II was the grandson of Isaac Duboise, who came to the United States from France. I am honored to recognize him and the entire Duboise family for their contributions to this country.

The Duboise family produced several Revolutionary War soldiers, including Stephen Duboise II. His service record speaks for itself and is documented in his application for a pension filed in Rutherford County, Tennessee, on August 24, 1832. During the war, he served under General Francis Marion (“The Swamp Fox”) and fought in several key Revolutionary battles.

Not long after his time in Tennessee, Stephen Duboise II moved to Franklin County, Alabama, which is part of the Fourth Congressional District that I am proud to represent. He is listed in the Franklin County census of 1840. Stephen Duboise II died in Franklin County on October 15, 1842, and is buried near the Duboise Cemetery in an unmarked grave.

On May 20, 2012, an unveiling and ceremony is scheduled along with the dedication of a monument at the Duboise Cemetery honoring Stephen Duboise II, along with other members of his family line from Isaac Duboise to Peter Duboise, who was buried alongside Stephen in 1910. By placing a monument at the Duboise Cemetery, with the genealogy attached, this rich heritage can be viewed and passed on for many generations to come. May God bless the Duboise family, the great State of Alabama, and the United States of America.

IN SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF
NAGORNO-KARABAKH

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to remember and support the people of Nagorno-Karabakh.

It is first worth highlighting the history at work in this tragic situation. Historically, the majority of the population in Nagorno-Karabakh has been Armenian, and the people have always had close ethnic, religious, and familial ties with Armenia. However, in 1921, Joseph Stalin, then the commissar for nationality affairs in the Transcaucasia Bureau of the Communist Party, declared Nagorno-Karabakh to be an autonomous region controlled by Azerbaijan as part of his strategy to divide and rule.

In 1987, as the Soviet Union teetered on the edge of dissolution, the Karabakh Armenians petitioned for the inclusion of Nagorno-Karabakh in the state of Armenia. In 1991, they petitioned for independent state status. Sadly, the situation remains unresolved.

After the Soviet Union dissolved, Armenians in Azerbaijan and Nagorno-Karabakh endured great hardship, including horrific violence in Sumgait (February 1998), in Kirovabad (November 1988) and in Baku (January 1990). These pogroms were only part of a pattern of anti-Armenian activities occurring throughout Azerbaijan, and thousands of people lost their lives and hundreds of thousands of Armenians were displaced as a result. Such targeted violence is as deplorable today as it was two decades ago—yet, tragically, the region is no closer to peace. A cease-fire agreement, brokered in 1994, remains in place, but continued incendiary actions and statements threaten to destabilize peace talks. In January 2008, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev warned Armenians living in Nagorno-Karabakh, “We are reinforcing our army because we must be ready to free our lands . . . at any moment and by any means.” Such rhetoric can only be poison to the peace process.

U.S. policy toward the South Caucasus states has included promoting the resolution of the conflict surrounding the independent Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh. It is more important than ever that the United States maintain a principled stand for peace in this region, show that democracy can be born from conflict, and support Nagorno-Karabakh. It is my sincerest hope that Nagorno-Karabakh's right to self-determination can be affirmed without further loss of life.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING IMPORTANCE OF PREVENTING IRAN FROM ACQUIRING A NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I strongly oppose H. Res. 568, a resolution “expressing the